

## COMMENT RE 04-208

The growing practice of diverting certain business expenses from rates into line item charges deceives consumers by making it appear that services cost less than they really do and skews the competitive marketplace by making it difficult to comparison shop. The explosion of line items has made it all but impossible for consumers to compare rates and shop around. Please prohibit line item charges related to government mandates unless federal or state agencies have explicitly authorized them; monitor and ensure that such charges are commensurate with the actual costs involved and set standard descriptions for FCC-authorized line item charges.